

Message Text

SECRET

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17-12
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 IO-14 NEA-10

NIC-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /163 W

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P R 100625Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8670

USLO PEKING PRIORITY

DIA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCUSARPAC

CINCPACAF

CINCPACFLT

COMUSTDC

DIRNSA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

S E C R E T HONG KONG 11297

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

JOINT CONGEN/DLO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, UR, JA

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON TOKYO VIEW OF CHINESE AND SINO-SOVIET
DEVELOPMENTS

REF: TOKYO 14557(NOTAL)

SUMMARY: CHINA DOES NOT REPEAT NOT APPEAR TO BE RAISING WAR ALARMS
EITHER AT HOME OR ABROAD. WE HAVE SEEN NO INDICATORS FROM HERE
SUGGESTING SOME NEW CRISIS IN SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS. FOREIGN
AFFAIRS HAS NOT YET BEEN OPENLY TOUCHED UPON IN THE CURRENT POLITICAL

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DEBATES GOING ON INSIDE CHINA.

1. JUDGING FROM INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE, WE HAVE SEEN NO CONVINCING INDICATORS OR COMBINATION OF INCIDENTS WHICH AT THIS TIME POINTS TO SOME NEW CRISIS OR MILITARY CONFRONTATION IN SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS. THERE HAS BEEN NO SIGN OF A GENERAL MILITARY ALERT OR OF UNUSUAL CIVIL DEFENSE MEASURES. THE CURRENT CHINESE STANCE APPEARS TO BE ONE OF CONTINUING VIGILANCE AND PREPARATIONS BUT NOT ALARM (HONG KONG 10570).

2. THE MILITARY REPORTS CITED BY THE JAPANESE (PARA 2 REFTEL) (ON WHICH OTHER US AGENCIES MAY HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION) SEEM TO BE DISPARATE EVENTS WHICH ARE NOT NECESSARILY RELATED. FOR EXAMPLE, IT IS NOW THE SEASON FOR PLA FALL GROUND MANEUVERS, AND WE HAVE SEEN SOME TRAVELERS REPORTS INDICATING THAT SOME MANEUVERS MAY BE TAKING PLACE. THE INCREASED EMPHASIS ON THE MILITIA, WHICH WE AGREE MAY HAVE INTERNAL POLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS, IS NOT DEPENDENT ON OR EVEN CLEARLY RELATED TO ALARMS OVER ANY NEAR-TERM THREAT.

3. IN SEVERAL CONVERSATIONS WITH WESTERNERS OVER THE PAST MONTH (POMPIDOU, TRUDEAU, WHITLAM AND SULZBERGER) CHOU EN-LAI SAID LITTLE ABOUT THE IMMEDIATE SOVIET MILITARY THREAT TO CHINA.

4. THE POLITICAL DEBATES THAT PRESENTLY SEEM TO BE GOING ON WITHIN CHINA (HONG KONG 11268) HAVE NOT OPENLY TOUCHED UPON FOREIGN AFFAIRS. WHILE SUCH ISSUES AS THE PROPER ORIENTATION OF THE MILITIA COULD INVOLVE QUESTIONS ABOUT NATIONAL DEFENSE PRIORITIES, THERE IS SO FAR NO HINT THAT THE BASIC ASSUMPTIONS OF THE PRC'S PRESENT FOREIGN POLICY LINE ARE BEING CRITICIZED. CHINESE STATEMENTS IN THE UN, THE PRC'S POSITION ON THE MID-EAST WAR, CHOU'S DISCUSSIONS WITH RECENT VISITORS, AND OTHER CURRENT PEKING PRONOUNCEMENTS CONTINUE TO INDICATE THAT WHILE OPPOSITION TO BOTH SUPER POWERS REMAINS CHINA'S PRINCIPLE INTERNATIONAL LINE, THE FOCUS IS ON CONTAINING SOVIET EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE WORLD DOMINANCE THROUGH HEGEMONY IN EURASIA, NEUTRALIZATION OF THE US AND ISOLATION OF CHINA. ALSO THERE HAS BEEN NOTHING TO NEGATE OUR VIEW THAT THE PRC IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE LONG TERM, STRATEGIC, POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC ASPECTS OF ITS RIVALRY WITH THE USSR THAN THE IMMEDIATE MILITARY THREAT. (HONG KONG 9796).

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5. ACTION: REQUEST TOKYO SEND REFTEL TO ABOVE DOD ADDRESSEES.
OSBORN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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